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Letter dated 24 May 2006 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

You will have received advice of the unstable situation in Timor-Leste, and of the request made by the President, the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the National Parliament of Timor-Leste to Portugal, Australia, Malaysia and New Zealand to provide international assistance, in order to help re-establish security and confidence. The New Zealand Government is seriously considering this request and will be in contact with the Government of Timor-Leste today on the exact nature of their requirements. We shall also coordinate closely with Portugal, Australia and Malaysia on this request.

Given the seriousness of the situation in Timor-Leste, New Zealand joins with Australia and Portugal in requesting that the Council should give urgent attention to this matter today. Consistent with Article 54 of Chapter VIII of the Charter, we would ensure that the Security Council is informed of New Zealand's intended response.

I have written in similar terms to the Secretary-General. I would be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rosemary **Banks**
Permanent Representative

06-36141 (E) 240506